

Gail began her career with the Social Security Office in Idaho Falls and later moved to Durango where she eventually became the Branch Manager of the Durango Social Security Office in September 1995. She is retiring this July, having served over 32 years with the Social Security Administration.

Gail is dedicated to her job and her employees. She has high expectations of herself and her staff. Gail stresses the importance that claimants receive all the considerations to which they are entitled. She is also an active member of her community and involved with La Plata County Quilter's Guild and the Archeological Society.

During my tenure in the United States Congress, Gail Schulz provided exceptional service to constituents of the 3rd Congressional District of Colorado. She worked hard to ensure that inquiries on behalf of my constituents submitted to the Social Security Administration were addressed in a timely and thorough manner. Gail routinely demonstrated a willingness to assist beyond the standard response, demonstrating a genuine concern for the constituent while upholding the policies of the Social Security Administration.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Gail Schulz has been an invaluable resource to the Social Security Administration. It is my honor to recognize her service and dedication before this body of Congress and this nation. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with devoted public servants like Gail. On behalf of the citizens that have benefited from the hard work and commitment she has given to the Social Security Administration and the constituents it serves, I extend my appreciation for her years of enthusiastic service.

#### CONGRATULATING THE HOSPITALS OF THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

#### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 12, 2004*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's official. The July 12 issue of U.S. News and World Report has named Houston's MD Anderson Cancer Center as the number one cancer treatment facility in the nation. Since 1941, MD Anderson has consistently delivered on its mission to provide innovative and compassionate treatment, cutting-edge research and educational outreach with regard to both common and rare cancers.

MD Anderson's clinical research program is the largest in the nation, allowing more than 11,000 patients access to promising and innovative therapies and diagnostic tests in 2003. This stellar reputation has attracted more than 600,000 cancer patients from all corners of the U.S. to Houston for the multidisciplinary approach to cancer treatment pioneered by MD Anderson, which has since become the established method of cancer treatment in all hospitals today.

MD Anderson is part of Houston's Texas Medical Center, which is comprised of more than thirty academic, research and patient care institutions delivering top-notch medical care to Texans and the thousands of Americans who flock to Houston each year to be treated by the best. And the recent rankings

by U.S. News and World Report prove that the Texas Medical Center continues to offer some of the best medical care in the country.

In gynecology, both MD Anderson and Methodist Hospital rank within the top twenty-five health centers for women's health. Ranking fourth in the nation, the Texas Children's Hospital continues to lead the way in pediatric care. Both the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's and Methodist Hospital rank in the top twenty for the treatment of heart disease and heart surgery. Methodist also ranks number ten in neurology and neurosurgery, and in the top forty for orthopedics.

Two hospitals in the Texas Medical Center rank within the top fifteen in urology, with MD Anderson holding the number ten spot and Methodist ranking number thirteen. Methodist shares top billing with Memorial Hermann in the treatment of kidney diseases, with both hospitals ranking in the top fifty for this specialty. Both kidney diseases and hormonal disorders are complications of the rising diabetes epidemic, and the rankings also recognized Memorial Hermann as a top hospital for endocrinology.

These rankings prove what Houstonians have known all along—the Texas Medical Center is armed with the research, treatment and patient care options to help Americans tackle whatever health condition ails them. I am extremely proud to have the Texas Medical Center in Houston and congratulate all of its hospitals on this national recognition and on all of their many accomplishments in health care.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO LESLIE KEERY

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 12, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Leslie Keery of Rifle, Colorado, for her dedication to the students of Rifle High School. As an art instructor, Leslie has positively impacted the lives of both her colleagues and students. Leslie is aiding kids in developing their artistic and creative skills for use in future careers and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing her before this body of Congress and this nation for her dedication to her students and her success in the classroom.

Leslie was recently honored with the local Walmart Teacher of the Year Award; that is awarded based upon the written essays of students and staff members. Her recognition as a special teacher was also complemented with a one thousand dollar donation to the art department, an opportunity to compete for the state competition and a nomination for the national Teacher of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, Leslie Keery has done much to enrich the lives of the students at Rifle High School and her community, and I am honored to bring her accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation. Congratulations on your award Leslie, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

#### HONORING DESIREE G. ROGERS

#### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 12, 2004*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to Desiree G. Rogers on being elected President of People's Gas and North Shore Gas, two utility subsidiaries of People's Energy Corporation.

People's Energy has, for 150 years, been committed to providing gas service to residential and business consumers in northeastern Illinois. Today, it serves an estimated one million people in Chicago and northeastern Illinois.

Based on Ms. Rogers' immense contributions to People's Energy since joining in 1997, I am confident that Ms. Rogers' new role will prove to be very beneficial to the company. In the past, Ms. Rogers has exhibited tremendous leadership skills by successfully taking on many of the company's difficult tasks.

As president of People's Gas and North Shore Gas, Ms. Rogers will have responsibility over the utilities' field operations, customer functions, and gas supply management. She will also continue to be in charge of customer relations, an area in which she has demonstrated to be very experienced.

As the former senior vice president of Customer Service of the utilities, Ms. Rogers was able to improve the company's financial results while establishing strong customer ties. Ms. Rogers first joined the company in 1997 as Vice President of Communications, and was named Chief Marketing Officer in 2000. She oversaw community affairs and governmental relations, in addition to operations and marketing of the company's utilities.

Ms. Rogers' leadership extends beyond her work with People's Energy. She is involved in several community organizations, including the Lincoln Park Zoo, of which she is the Vice Chairman, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Executives' Club of Chicago. She was also the chairman of the Chicago Children's Museum for 3 years. Ms. Rogers has admirably used her success as a means to contribute to philanthropic organizations, such as the Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization, of which she is a trustee. Ms. Rogers' contributions to the Chicago community are truly commendable.

Once again, I would like to congratulate Desiree Rogers on her well deserved promotion to President of People's Gas and North Shore Gas, and wish her and the company continued success in the future.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAM WILSON

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 12, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Pam Wilson and thank her for her work as Fire Information Officer with the San Juan Lands Center, a joint office of the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management in Durango, Colorado. Her years of commitment and dedication as a public servant is certainly commendable and worthy of